

Letter from Eliza Symonds Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, June 20, 1870, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Melville Bell to her son, Alexander Graham Bell, dated Monday, June 20th, 1870 18 Harrington Square, N.W., London Monday 20th June, 70 (registered A. G. Bell, Esq., 13 S. Charlotte St., Edinburgh) My dear Aleck,

Enclosed is what you have written for. I trust you will receive it safely. You will know by this time that L., M. and Susan started last night, and I hope by this time they are safe at Uncle's. Susan had charge of a letter for you, by which you will see that we want you sorely at home, therefore, unless there be some very strong reason otherwise, I think you had better come directly home — rather than by the longer water journey. It would be very pleasant to travel with Mr. Wier, whom we thank heartily for taking so much care of you, but what one would prefer to do, must give place to what one should do, and Papa will be seriously inconvenienced by the delay if you take the longer course. Was it really necessary to have a professional packer to roll up a few blankets and a bed? It needed nothing but to roll the bed in the blanket — wrapping the roll in the old crumb cloth and well lashing it. I could have done it myself. Papa has no assistant in the quantity of packing he has already accomplished. The packing Van would call for the things. You do not say if the proceeds of the sale included Papa's pictures and Stories at 13 Charlotte St. Papa says that Mr. Anderson will settle Melly's debts. Your description of playing at back-woods life is very funny, but you don't really think you are going into the back-woods do you? You are merely going into a country house, and will have civilized society there, just as much as you have here.

We are glad you are enjoying your excursions and the society of beautiful girls. Carrie is waiting to post and register this so I must conclude in a hurry. Notify safe receipt. All join in fond love.

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Your affectionate Mother, E. G. Bell